

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES B.
"SONNY" TOWNER, JR.

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Charles B. "Sonny" Towner, Jr., who passed away on June 2, 2004. A dedicated member of the Santa Cruz community, Charles is survived by his wife Ellen, and will be greatly missed.

Charles led a life of public service, first serving in the 6th Aircraft Repair Unit Floating during World War II. Following the war, Charles returned to California to sell sporting goods, becoming a prominent businessman in the Bay Area for over 30 years. Continuing his public service, Charles also became the business manager for the Cambrian School District in San Jose for ten years. During this time, Charles was an active member of the Camden High School Booster Club and volunteered for the Cambrian Park Little League and Pony League.

Following his retirement in 1990, Charles continued his commitment to his community, as he volunteered with the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz Gardens School Volunteer Program and the California Grey Bears.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to Charles' family and honor him by celebrating his life and contribution to society. As a prominent member of the Santa Cruz community, Charles Towner, Jr. will be missed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LESLIE BAILEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Leslie Bailey and thank her for the remarkable civic contributions she has made to her Fort Collins community, the State of Colorado and this nation. Leslie started her career volunteering her services to the Federal Emergency Management Agency following the flood disaster that struck Fort Collins in the summer of 1997, and has remained in public service ever since. I am pleased to be able to pay tribute to Leslie, and thank her for her tireless work.

After helping her community's flood victims in 1997, Leslie was asked to join FEMA as a Disaster Assistance Employee. Since that time, she has served in Community Relations, Public Affairs, and Congressional Affairs, with a focused area of expertise on Congressional and Intergovernmental liaison functions. From 1998 to 2004 Leslie served as one of FEMA's primary Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Liaisons. She has held the position of Congressional Liaison, on over 40 federally declared disaster operations including response efforts to the September 11th attacks and preparing for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Leslie currently serves as the Lead Congressional Liaison on one of three national Emergency Response Teams for FEMA, and frequently works as part of the Office of Legisla-

tive Affairs Disaster Team. Her hard work has made her a national asset to the agency and to this nation.

Mr. Speaker it is clear that Leslie Bailey is a woman of great commitment to humanitarian efforts in the State of Colorado and our country. Her hard work and willingness to give of her time to help federal disaster victims is worthy of recognition before this body of Congress today. I wish to extend my sincerest thanks to Leslie for her continuing work on behalf of a grateful nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, every visitor who comes to my office is greeted by a plaque that bears the inscription of Ronald Reagan's signature and this quote, "There's no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit." These words are characteristic of the great man that served as the fortieth President of the United States of America. I am involved with politics today because of the inspiration I received from Ronald Reagan. I believe he was the true example of what a statesman can be, and I hold that example close to my heart as I carry out my own duties.

President Reagan will always be remembered as an unabashed patriot. He was convinced of the ability of the United States to provide the hope of freedom to those enslaved by totalitarianism and communism. President Reagan's vision of the world and the future of this country would not be dimmed or daunted by ideological threat, and he was not afraid to stand up to tyranny and aggression. From the beginning of his presidency, President Reagan realized the potential cost of inaction and weakness in the face of Soviet defiance and nuclear threat, and he took action. Through a series of defense budgets, he increased defense spending 35 percent during his two terms, ensuring the country the resources necessary for security. Additionally, President Reagan managed to negotiate the first U.S.-Soviet treaty to reduce the number of nuclear weapons through a series of four summits with Mikhail Gorbachev. President Reagan was always clear about what he expected and never more so than when he pleaded at the Brandenburg Gates, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

President Reagan planted democracy in regions of the world that have never tasted the joys of freedom. He taught newly liberated people across the globe that hard work and faith in God could result in prosperity, a sense of satisfaction in one's own legacy, and a better outlook for tomorrow. He wanted the American dream to be a reality throughout the world.

President Reagan will also be remembered as a man of humble beginnings. He proclaimed America as a place where "everyone can rise as high and as far as his ability will take him." Born in Tampico, Illinois, President Reagan used his abilities to establish a career in Hollywood. He continued to work and learn as he rose through California politics and went

on to serve two successful terms as the leader of our nation. He wanted all Americans to have the same freedom and opportunity to pursue success, and he consistently promoted that ideal through policies of limited government. He said, "Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it."

What makes Ronald Reagan most unforgettable was his unflinching optimism. Even as our nation mourns, we cannot help but smile at the thought of his cheerful and radiant personality. President Reagan possessed a sense of humor strong enough to withstand even the pain of an assassin's bullet. Demonstrating his trademark good nature, he said to the doctors about to operate on his bullet wounds, "I hope you're all Republicans." It was this characteristic sanguinity that swept up a down-trodden America and reenergized its faith in freedom, the Presidency, and our military.

Ronald Reagan was many things. He was a man of reason, a man of sincerity, a man willing to listen. And he is a man whose character, grace, and wisdom will be deeply missed by this nation.

TO HONOR KATY DOYLE

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize the exceptional athletic achievements of an outstanding individual, personal friend, and fellow Texan.

Katy Doyle, a member of the Texas A&M track and field team, led her team with an incredible athletic performance in the 2004 Big 12 Outdoor track and field conference championships. In the javelin competition, Doyle's throw of 54.75m put her team in first place in the event, and shattered a conference record that had stood for five years.

Doyle's gold medal performance at the conference championship added to her two previous wins in the same event in 2000 and 2003 conference meets.

Mr. Speaker, being a personal friend of both Katy and her family, I can say her on-field performance is a testament to her character off the field. Coming off a seemingly debilitating injury that kept her out of competition in 2001 and 2002, she persevered and ultimately regained her championship form.

I am honored to give credit to this talented athlete, deserving individual, and great Texan.

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.P.C. BAR CODE

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and friends in Troy, Ohio to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the U.P.C. bar code. When a pack of Wrigley's chewing gum was scanned by a cashier at the Marsh Supermarket in Troy on June 26, 1974, few understood the impact this simple action would have. Thirty years later, we now know.